

a lot." You don't see—I told somebody—you never hear anybody anymore complain about going through an airport metal detector, saying, "I really resent this; my constitutional right to travel is being infringed." [Laughter] You're laughing, but you know, there was a lot of apprehension when we started this. All you had to do was think about your plane being hijacked.

But we ought to think—we ought to support this because we should think about not just ourselves being the victims; we should think about our neighbors being the victims.

We're in Colorado. Our hearts were broken by Columbine. I was elated by those 90 kids from Colorado who came, Republicans, Democrats, Christians, Jews, Asians, Hispanics, African-Americans—all kinds of people—90 kids from Colorado descended on the Congress last week, asking them, what in the living heck had happened to them? Had they forgotten about Columbine? Where was their gun safety legislation? It was fabulous. It was fabulous.

But what I want to say to you is, what we forget is 13 kids get gunned down in this country every day. It's worth to us—we should go to a little trouble to try to keep more of them alive. That's what community means to me. We should go to a little trouble to try to keep more of them alive.

So I just give you those examples. There are a lot more. The hates crime legislation—from top to bottom on their side, there's not a handful of them who want us to pass the hates crime bill that explicitly protects gays. Well, I think we should. I think about that Matthew Shepard out in Wyoming and his fine family; I think about the friends that we all have. Haven't we learned that we have nothing to fear from law-abiding citizens who are different from ourselves, as long as we treat them with dignity and respect, whatever their differences are, whether they're religious or whatever? I think this is a big deal. It's part of the way we define community.

I never will forget the first conversation I ever had about this with one of Evan's colleagues, Senator Chuck Robb from Virginia, represents a very conservative State, President Johnson's son-in-law. I believe he saw more combat than any Vietnam veteran in the United States Congress. Distinguished

Marine combat veteran in Vietnam. He looked at me without blinking an eye, and he said, "I am for this." And he said, "I am for anything." He said, "I served with people who risked their life for this country, who were gay, and we ought to give them the protections every other citizen gets." And to me, that's part of community.

Let me just close with this story. Some of you have heard this before, but I was on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota recently, with the chairman of the Oglala Sioux, the tribe of Crazy Horse. And the new chairman's name is Harold Salway. He was in the White House with 19 of the tribal chieftains from the high plains to talk about their terrible economic and social problems, which are a stain on this country, I might add, that we have to do something about.

And at the end of the meeting—Lynn Cutler is smiling; she was there, and she's heard me tell the story—there was not a dry eye in the place and no one could breathe when Harold Salway stood up, and he said, "Before we go, I want to tell you that we are for your position in Kosovo." Keep in mind, these people represent the poorest Indians in America; they come to see me; they tell me they want to say, we're for your position in Kosovo. And he said, "You see, we know a little about ethnic cleansing." He said, "My great-grandfather was killed at Wounded Knee." But he said, "This is America. I had two uncles. One was on the beach at Normandy; one was the first Native American fighter pilot in the history of the U.S. military. And here today their nephew is with the President of the United States." He said, "I only have one son. He means more to me than anything. But I would be proud to have him wear the uniform of my country to fight against ethnic cleansing in Kosovo."

Community. Why do we fight for peace in the Middle East? Why do we work for it in Northern Ireland? Why do we ask people to stop\* killing each other in Africa? Why do we try to get the American people to look at the interdependent nature of the world? Why do all of you who are quite comfortable believe that these young people who have served us today ought to all be able to go

\* White House correction.

to college, so we ought to raise the minimum wage periodically to make sure people who work are not in poverty? We honestly believe that it is not only the right thing to do, but that we are better off when others are.

Senator Kennedy yesterday carried a great burden, as he has for more than 30 years now. I'd like to close with a reminder of something he said when his brother was killed in 1968, and once before he had to give a eulogy that the world listened to. And at the end of it he said that he and his family hoped that what his brother wished for others and what he was to them would someday come to pass for all the world.

That is the dream that animates us. Tomorrow, if they ask you why you were here, give them a good answer.

Thank you. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:13 p.m. at a private residence. In his remarks he referred to luncheon hosts Melvin and Bren Simon; murder victim Matthew Shepard; and Senator Evan Bayh.

### **Remarks to the American Embassy Community in Rabat, Morocco**

*July 25, 1999*

Thank you very much. First, thank you for your warm welcome. To those of you who brought the children here today, thank you, especially for bringing them. I would like to thank Congressman Gilman and Congressman Martin Frost, who is with him from Texas, for joining us. I thank Secretary Christopher and Secretary Baker for dropping everything at a moment's notice to make this trip, to manifest their respect for King Hassan and the friendship between the United States and Morocco.

I'd like to say a special word of thanks to President Bush, who came here, again, on a moment's notice and had to leave early because he now has to go down to Casablanca to take a plane to Belgium to meet another appointment. But I'm very grateful to him for making this trip.

And I'd like to thank all the people from the State Department and the National Security Council, represented by Mr. Berger up here, for putting this trip together in a hurry. And Ambassador Gabriel, thank you and

Kathleen and the other members of our Embassy community for making us so welcome.

I'd also like to say that the First Lady would very much like to be here to thank you for making her trips to Morocco so successful. And Chelsea is here, and Hillary's mother is here, who, as I'm sure you know, has been here at least twice, maybe more, since I've been here. I think she's thinking of moving to Morocco. *[Laughter]*

We are all profoundly grateful for the friendship between Morocco and the United States and for the personal kindness and friendship that His Majesty, King Hassan, displayed to me, to my family, to many of us on this podium, and to President Bush and to so many others over the years. So this is an important day for us. And Hillary would be here, but she and Chelsea and my mother-in-law have gone to visit with the mother and the sisters of the new King, and that is why they are not here. But they asked me to give you their best and to thank you.

Now, let me say, especially to the Moroccans who work for the American Embassy here, I know this is a difficult day for many of you. King Hassan was the only King most Moroccans ever knew. And I hope it is some measure of comfort to the people of this nation that among the throngs, the millions of his fellow citizens who came out to honor his passing today were leaders from every part of the world, from every political and religious background, united in their support for Morocco and their respect for the life that he lived.

King Hassan knew every American President since John Kennedy. He, himself, endured great turbulence and personal risk. The thing that always impressed me about him is he was never embittered by the dangers that he faced and, over time, he grew in wisdom, stature, and standing in the world; and as he grew, so did Morocco. I'm told he was known as the great survivor and, of course, we all know those survivor stories. We had another laugh about them on the plane over and shook our head in amazement.

But I think that, in effect, to call King Hassan a survivor is not to do justice to him. Because when we think of a survivor, we think about someone who is very clever, all